

**§ 54.13 Accessibility and refrigeration of products; access to establishments.**

(a) The applicant shall cause products, with respect to which service is requested, to be made easily accessible for examination and to be so placed, with adequate illuminating facilities, as to disclose their class, grade, other quality, and compliance. Supervisors of grading and other employees of the Department responsible for maintaining uniformity and accuracy of service under the regulations shall have access to all parts of establishments covered by approved applications for service under the regulations, for the purpose of examining all products in the establishments which have been or are to be graded or examined for compliance with specifications or which bear any marks of grade or compliance.

(b) Grading service will only be furnished for meat that a USDA grader determines is chilled so that grade factors are developed to the extent that a proper grade determination can be made in accordance with the official standards. To be eligible for grading, beef carcasses must be ribbed at least 10 minutes prior to being offered for grading. Meat that is presented in a frozen condition shall not be eligible for a grade determination. Meat of all eligible species shall be graded only in the establishment where the animal was slaughtered or initially chilled (except for veal and calf carcasses, which

shall be graded only after the hide is removed and only in the establishment where such removal occurs). The Director may grant prior approval for grading at a location other than the establishment of slaughter or initial chill upon notification to the Division if the Branch was unable to provide grading service in a timely manner and that the meat can be identified in conformance with the standards.

[42 FR 53921, Oct. 4, 1977, as amended at 45 FR 51762, Aug. 5, 1980. Redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981, as amended at 63 FR 72102, Dec. 31, 1998]

**§ 54.14 Official certificates.**

(a) Agricultural Products Certificate Form LS-5-3 (Figure 1) is the official certificate for products under the regulations. The official grader shall prepare, sign, and issue an Agricultural Products Certificate Form LS-5-3 covering products for which that grader determined final specification compliance. Where weight or count is verified, the grader shall initial in the block titled "Weights and Total Count Verified."

(b) Applicant Charges Certificate Form LS-5-5 (Figure 2) will be used to reduce paperwork for applicants assigned multiple graders. Assigned graders will complete one Form LS-5-5. Each grader will enter their code letters and signature in the appropriate location(s) to indicate certificate completion.


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[illegible]

FIGURE 2. Applicant Charges.

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE		WEEK BEGINNING DATE		DOCUMENT NO.													
APPLICANT CHARGES		CY	MONTH	DAY	C-0012007-1												
<p>The certificate is receivable by all officers and all courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained. (This certificate does not excuse failure to comply with any of the regulatory laws enforced by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.)</p> <p>The conduct of all services and the rendering of grading services under the regulations governing such services shall be interpreted without discrimination as to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.</p>				<p>APPLICANT INFORMATION NO. 4 4</p> <p>NAME, CITY, STATE</p>													
		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		TOTAL	
1		GRAD	CERT	GRAD	CERT	GRAD	CERT	GRAD	CERT	GRAD	CERT	GRAD	CERT	GRAD	CERT	GRAD	CERT
BASE																	
PREMIUM																	
HOLIDAY																	
LAB FEE	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
PER DIEM	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
MILES																	
TOTAL OTHER	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
GRADERS EQUIPMENT CODE		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITMENT <input type="checkbox"/> NONCOMMITMENT														SIGNATURE	
2																	
BASE																	
PREMIUM																	
HOLIDAY																	
LAB FEE	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
PER DIEM	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
MILES																	
TOTAL OTHER	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
GRADERS EQUIPMENT CODE		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITMENT <input type="checkbox"/> NONCOMMITMENT														SIGNATURE	
3																	
BASE																	
PREMIUM																	
HOLIDAY																	
LAB FEE	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
PER DIEM	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
MILES																	
TOTAL OTHER	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
GRADERS EQUIPMENT CODE		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITMENT <input type="checkbox"/> NONCOMMITMENT														SIGNATURE	
4																	
BASE																	
PREMIUM																	
HOLIDAY																	
LAB FEE	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
PER DIEM	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
MILES																	
TOTAL OTHER	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
GRADERS EQUIPMENT CODE		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITMENT <input type="checkbox"/> NONCOMMITMENT														SIGNATURE	
5																	
BASE																	
PREMIUM																	
HOLIDAY																	
LAB FEE	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
PER DIEM	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
MILES																	
TOTAL OTHER	\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
GRADERS EQUIPMENT CODE		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITMENT <input type="checkbox"/> NONCOMMITMENT														SIGNATURE	

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(c) *Distribution.* The original certificate, and not to exceed two copies, shall be delivered or mailed to the applicant or other person designated by

him. The remaining copies shall be forwarded as required by agency, division, and branch instructions. Additional copies will be furnished to any person

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financially interested in the products involved with the concurrence of the applicant and upon payment of fees, as provided in § 54.27.

[42 FR 53921, Oct. 4, 1977. Redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981, as amended at 51 FR 590, Jan. 7, 1986; 61 FR 11506, Mar. 21, 1996]

#### § 54.15 Advance information concerning service rendered.

Upon request of any applicant, all or any part of the contents of any certificate issued to him under the regulations, or other notification concerning the determination of class, grade, other quality, or compliance of products for such applicant may be transmitted by telegraph or telephone to him, or to any person designated by him, at his expense.

#### § 54.16 Marking of products.

All products for which class and grade under the standards are determined under the regulations, or the immediate and shipping containers thereof, shall be stamped, branded, or otherwise marked with an appropriate official identification: *Provided*, That except as otherwise directed by the Chief, such marking will not be required when an applicant only desires official certificates. The marking of products, or their containers, as required by this section shall be done by official graders or under their immediate supervision.

[42 FR 53921, Oct. 4, 1977. Redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981, as amended at 63 FR 72102, Dec. 31, 1998]

#### § 54.17 Official identifications.

(a) A shield enclosing the letters "USDA" and code identification letters of the grader performing the service, as shown below, constitutes a form of official identification under the regulations for preliminary grade of carcasses.

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Figure 1.

(b) A shield enclosing the letters "USDA" as shown in Figure 1 with the appropriate quality grade designation "Prime," "Choice," "Select," "Good," "Standard," "Commercial," "Utility," "Cutter," "Canner," or "Cull," as provided in the official United States Standards for Grades of Beef, Veal and Calf, Lamb, Yearling Mutton, and Mutton Carcasses and accompanied by the class designation "Bullock," "Veal," "Calf," "Lamb," "Yearling Mutton," or "Mutton," constitutes a form of official identification under the regulations to show the quality grade, and where necessary the class, undersaid standards, of steer, heifer, and cow beef, veal, calf, lamb, yearling mutton and mutton. The code identification letters of the grader performing the service will appear intermittently outside the shield.



Figure 2.

(c) A shield enclosing the letters "USDA" and the words "Yield Grade," as in Figure 1, with the appropriate yield grade designation "1," "2," "3," "4," or "5" as provided in the Official United States Standards for Grades of Fresh Beef Carcasses and the Official United States Standards for Grades of Lamb, Yearling Mutton, and Mutton Carcasses constitutes a form of official identification under the regulations to